



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY SIGNAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
AND FORT GORDON
506 CHAMBERLAIN AVENUE
FORT GORDON GEORGIA 30905-5735

ATZH-CG

AUG 21 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR FORT GORDON PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Resiliency and Family Time (RAFT)

1. The primary purpose of the recent visit to the US Army Signal Center of Excellence and Fort Gordon (USASIGCoE&FG) and other installations by the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army was to emphasize the necessity for all leaders to be proactive in assuring the health of our forces. From the highest levels of the Army down to the lowest unit leader, we must be committed and continually act to enhance resiliency and coping skills that ensure Soldier fitness. Resiliency and Family Time (RAFT) is one of the tools available to help Soldiers and Family members develop the skills necessary to face the physical and psychological challenges of sustained operations. RAFT allows members time to rest, recuperate and recover from the trials of daily life.
2. Leaders at all levels will set the example by encouraging a balanced allocation of service members' time between work and personal life and adhere to the RAFT policy prescribed herein.
3. RAFT will be observed on Thursdays. All activities, such as maintenance, training and any administrative functions, will end early enough to enable Soldiers to be released from duty no later than 1500.
4. I realize that some of our senior mission partners operate on shifts; are heavily involved in providing a service to our community; constrained by scheduling of certain facilities and contractual obligations. As a result, some may not be able to support the prescribed window for RAFT. When such scheduling conflicts occur, then mission requirement will take precedence. I encourage Commanders, Commandants, and Directors to work within the intent of this policy and support this program to the maximum extent possible.
5. Brigade Commanders, Commandants, and Directors are the approval authorities for all essential functions and missions that dictate an exemption to this policy. Exemptions include: unit staff duty; designated guard duty; courts-martial duty; medical and dental appointments; and approved field training exercises. Commanders, Commandants and Directors are encouraged to compensate Soldiers who miss RAFT.

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6. Dates for the USASIGCoE&FG RAFT will be identified by the 15th RSB and RNCOA in their annual training guidance, and will be briefed during the Semi-Annual Training Briefs. Master Training Calendars and all unit training schedules will reflect USASIGCoE&FG RAFT.

7. The Point of Contact for this memorandum is the USASIGCoE&FG Chief of Staff at (706)791-2114.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lawarren V. Patterson", is positioned above the printed name.

LAWARREN V. PATTERSON
Major General, USA
Commanding